

Department of Public Health
and Human Services

Section:
RESOURCES

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Subject:
Overview

Supersedes: FS 400 (04/01/03)

≥References: 7 CFR 273.8; 7 CFR 273.10(b); 7 CFR 273.12(a)(3)

GENERAL RULE -- The filing unit's resource eligibility is determined by evaluating the resources of each member. All resources owned by the filing unit must be evaluated for ownership, accessibility, value, and exclusion status.

Resource eligibility is determined by evaluating the household's current and anticipated circumstances based on reasonable expectations and knowledge of its financial circumstances. The result accurately reflects all facts and the projection of resource eligibility through the certification or six month report period.

≥RESOURCE LIMITS

The maximum allowable resources including both liquid and non-liquid resources of all household members cannot exceed \$3,000 for households that include a member(s) age 60 or over or include a disabled household member(s); the maximum allowable resources for all other households cannot exceed \$2,000.

Categorically eligible households are not subject to a resource limit (FS 304-1). The OPA Case Manager must enter a 'Y' indicator on the EXRF screen for categorically eligible households. When the household is no longer categorically eligible, the OPA Case Manager must change the 'Y' indicator on EXRF.

RESOURCES OF CATEGORICALLY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS

Categorically eligible individuals' resources are excluded FS (304-1).

The following work around must be used until a TEAMS enhancement is completed:

1. If the household includes a categorically eligible member(s) and fails the resource test, code the categorically eligible member(s) 'OU' on FS SEPA and test for resource eligibility. If the case still fails the resource test, deny or close the case. If the case passes the resource test, return to FS SEPA, code the categorically eligible member(s) 'IN', and code the case as categorically eligible on EXRF.
2. Document on a TEAMS case note explaining the case is not actually "categorically eligible" and the reason for the work around.

**RESOURCES OF
DISQUALIFIED/
INELIGIBLE
INDIVIDUALS**

Resources of disqualified or ineligible filing unit members (coded 'DQ', 'DF', or 'DS' on FS SEPA) are countable unless the resource is excluded by policy.

NOTE: Resources of an alien's sponsor and sponsor's spouse (if living with the sponsor) are deemed manually (FS 301-3).

**DATE OF
RESOURCE
ELIGIBILITY
APPLICATION/
RECERTIFICATION**

Resources available at the time the household is interviewed are used to make the resource determination. Changes in resources that occur or are reported after the interview but prior to the approval or denial of the application/recertification are disregarded for the month of application. The changes must be considered in determining resource eligibility for the second month's benefit unless the second month's benefit was already issued or time lines do not allow for an adverse action notice to be sent to the household (FS 104-1).

Example 1: Household applies for food stamps and Medicaid on July 1st and is interviewed on July 7th. Its resources on July 7th are \$3,200. Before the OPA Case Manager denies the application, the household verifies their resources are \$1,500 as of July 22nd.

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Since resources are within the allowable limit within 30 days of application, the household must be interviewed and resource eligibility determined as of the new interview date. Food stamp benefits are prorated from the date the household re-signs the application, and the application is date-stamped again on July 22nd.

The OPA Case Manager sends a notice of denial for the July 1st application date, and a notice of approval for the July 22nd application. The notices cannot be combined but can be sent to the household on the same day.

The Medicaid application is approved for the month of July if the household verifies the change in resources and is otherwise eligible.

Example 2: Household applies and is interviewed for food stamp benefits and Medicaid on July 5th with resources of \$1,200 on that date. Before the OPA Case Manager approves the application, the household reports and verifies on July 15th they were given a 2001 Ford truck not excluded by policy. The application must be approved effective July 5th for food

stamps based on the resources available at the time of the interview.

Food stamp benefits close effective July 31st with timely notice of closure provided to the household.

If otherwise eligible, Medicaid is approved effective July 1st because the household met the resource standard at one point during the month.

**CURRENT
MONTH
INCOME**

Income received in the month is excluded as a resource in the month it is received. If the income is deposited into a bank account, it is excluded as a resource in the month received but is countable for future months.

**TEAMS
CODING**

All resources, even if they are excluded per policy, are entered on the appropriate TEAMS screens (FIAC, LIAS, OTAS, and VEHI). Enter all resource data for each filing unit member using the appropriate type codes. Some type codes are program specific and resource data may have to be entered more than once with different type codes for TEAMS to count it appropriately for each program. TEAMS processes the resource data entered and displays the countable resource determination amount on EXRF.

When changes are made to the financial screens, eligibility must be redetermined by entering through EXRF. If benefits are authorized for the current benefit month, changes to the financial screens will deauthorize the benefit requiring the OPA Case Manager to authorize the benefit again.

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